

REMARKS

These remarks and the accompanying amendments are responsive to the Office Action dated March 23, 2007. At the time of the last examination, Claims 7-15 were pending. By this response Claims 8-11 and 14 are cancelled, and Claims 16 and 17 are added. Accordingly, upon entry of this response Claims 7, 12, 13 and 15-17 will be pending for further prosecution. Claims 7, 12, 13 and 15 are the only independent claims.

The only rejection pending is a 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of Claims 7-11 and 13-15, while Claim 12 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, the Office Action states that Claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 12 is amended herein to be in independent form including all of the limitations of independent Claim 11, from which Claim 12 previously depended. Accordingly, independent Claim 12 should be in allowable form.

The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection is moot with respect to cancelled Claims 8-11 and 14, but remains with respect to independent Claims 7, 13 and 15.

Amended claim 7 is a system claim that is similar to the apparatus claim of Claim 12, and includes substantially all of the limitations of amended claim 12. Therefore, Claim 7 should now be allowable.

Amended claim 13 is a method claim that is similar to the apparatus claim of Claim 12, and includes substantially all of the limitations of amended claim 12. Therefore, Claim 13 should be allowed.

Amended claim 15 is a method claim that is similar to the apparatus claim of Claim 12, and includes substantially all of the limitations of amended claim 12. Therefore, Claim 15 should be allowed.

New dependent claims 16 and 17 should be allowed, since they depend on amended claims 7 and 13, respectively.

Therefore, favorable action is respectfully requested.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 20th day of June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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